GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1274
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
VENDING OF ICE CREAM AT STATIONS .
Pateriya Smt. Neeta

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has obtained permission for vending ice cream at all the stations of Jabalpur zone ;

(b) If so, the brand of the ice cream which has been permitted for vending ;

(c) Whether the licenced vendors are selling sub-standard ice cream to the passengers ;

(d) If so, the reaction of the Railways thereto ;

(e) Whether use of plastic cups is banned in Railways ;

(f) If so, the reasons for selling this fake brand of ice cream in plastic cups in place of paper cups;

(g) Whether vending of ice candy in place of ice cream is against the rules ; and

(h) If so, the action being taken by the Railways in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has been authorized to manage all catering/vending activities including ice creams stalls at all A, B & C category stations of Indian Railways. However, it is not mandatory to sell ice cream at all stations and such units are awarded based on the demand of the product.

(b): IRCTC has awarded licence for selling reputed brand of ice cream on West Central Railway.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) to (h): As per extant guidelines use of plastic items such as pouches, cups etc. has to be restricted to the bare minimum and ice cream manufacturing companies have to explore the possibility of supply of ice cream and its products in bio-degradable paper cups or other possible alternative, which is eco-friendly. Sale of ice candy is not permitted.